

## CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method of applying and monitoring an epidermal surfactant ~~that has been~~ applied to the skin of a person comprising the steps of:

placing an image along the surface of a substrate; and

depositing a surfactant on a defined area along the surface of the substrate;

wherein the image operates to indicate the quantity or the continuing effectiveness of the surfactant.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An article for applying and monitoring a surfactant comprising:

a substrate having an image applied to the surface of said substrate;  
and

a surfactant placed along said surface of said substrate such that said surfactant covers at least a portion of said image;

wherein said image ~~is effective for indicating~~ indicates the quantity or the continuing effectiveness of said surfactant.

8. (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said surfactant is an epidermal surfactant.

9. (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lathering agents, fragrance additives, vitamin compounds, skin treatment agents, anti-inflammatory activates, topical anesthetics, anti-microbial activates, anti-fungal activates, anti-viral agents, enzymes, skin exfoliating agents, anti-acne activates, anti-wrinkle, anti-skin atrophy and skin repair activates, skin barrier repair activates, non-steroidal cosmetic soothing activates, artificial tanning agents and accelerators, skin tightening activates, sunscreen activates, sebum stimulators, sebum inhibitors, anti-oxidants, protease inhibitors, anti-itch ingredients, hair growth inhibitors, 5-alpha reductase inhibitors, desquamating enzyme enhancers, anti-glycation agents, and mixtures thereof.

10. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image is ink selected from the group consisting of thermochromic inks, photochromic inks, hydrochromic inks, edible inks, and piezochromic inks.

11. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image is a vegetable based printing ink.

12. (Currently Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image is formed ~~from a decal comprising~~ ~~formed from~~ a material that dissolves in water.

13. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image is a coating comprising a material that dissolves in water.

14. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 12 wherein said decal is a material selected from the group consisting of hydrogels, compressed sugars, compressed salts, polymers and oligomers, gelatin, pectin, corn starch, and soaps.

15. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 13 wherein said coating is a material selected from the group consisting of hydrogels, compresses sugars, compressed salts, polymers and oligomers, gelatin, pectin, corn starch, and soaps.

16. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said substrate is a material capable of absorbing and retaining a substantial quantity of the surfactant.

17. (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein the substrate is a material selected from the group consisting of paper, cloth or natural or synthetic fiber, a sponge-like synthetic composition, and woven and non-woven materials.

- 18.** (Previously Amended) The article of Claim 7 wherein said substrate is a material selected from the group consisting of hydrogel, compressed sugars, compressed salts, polymers and oligomers, gelatin, corn starch, and soaps.
- 19.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 further comprising means for securing to the skin of the user.
- 20.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image operates by disappearing as the surfactant dissipates.
- 21.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image is a transparent image that becomes visible as the surfactant dissipates.
- 22.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said image changes color as the surfactant dissipates.
- 23.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein said substrate has a first surface having a first surfactant thereon and a second surface having a second surfactant thereon.
- 24.** (Original) The article of Claim 7 wherein the image is covered by a coating effective for controlling the disappearance time of the image.

**25. (Original)** The article of Claim 24 wherein said coating is formed from a wax.